

APPROVED MINUTES  
MANCHESTER VILLAGE COUNCIL  
February 3rd, 2020  
7:00 PM VILLAGE HALL

President Vaillencourt called the regular meeting of the Manchester Village Council to order at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Council members present: Vaillencourt, Dresch, Way, Woods, DuRussel, and Chartrand. Council members absent: Andrews. Also present were: Manager Wallace, Clerk Schaible, Brent Jones (DPW), Suzann Flowers and Emily Lake (WATS), Bruce Webb, Matt Lucas, Laurie Carey (Manchester Twp.), Linda Stevens (MACC) and Natalie Gilbreath.

The minutes of the January 20th, 2020 regular meeting were approved on a motion by Dresch, seconded by Woods. Vaillencourt and Andrews abstained.

**AGENDA** – The agenda was approved as amended: deleting Reports: A) Sheriff; B) Parks; C) Planning Commission; E) Healthy Communities/Wellness Coalition; F) Manchester Community Joint Planning Commission; G) Building; H) Personnel Committee; I) Finance Committee on a motion by Woods, seconded by Dresch.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**- Natalie Gilbreath reported that parking at Acorn is a problem for her. Many are parked illegally and trespassing. The constant activity is troublesome to her and her dogs. Vaillencourt noted that the Village would contact Acorn to make sure the customers are more courteous in their parking.

**SPECIAL SESSION- CITY STATUS**- Vaillencourt reported that the surveyor is still working on the boundary description, to which there have been zero changes. She reported that the Village and Township committees had met and had good discussion. Vaillencourt also reacted to statements that have been made regarding the “wrong time” to pursue city status and that Council should be focused on getting a pharmacy and grocery store instead. She reported that more than 9,000 stores had closed last year and the makeup of the government had nothing to do with it. The public buying patterns have everything to do with brick and motor stores closing. She noted that it may help our local stores not to have to pay township taxes. Vaillencourt also reported that she had spoken with the managers of our two local banks who both vehemently denied accusations that they do not support local businesses. She noted the many citizens who are working to support the downtown.

Andrews entered at this time.

Woods pointed out all the efforts to support local business and that it is not governments job to get overinvolved in business. Linda Stevens remarked that a lot of folks don't understand the complexities and the efforts. Matt Lucas asked about future plans. Vaillencourt answered that the goals are the same whether Manchester is a village or a city. She noted the \$100,000 per year sent to the Township *that does not come back to the Village* (amended 02/17/2020) and that it may be better utilized by a city. Andrews asked about past collaborations between the Village and the Township. There were none other than the Fire Department. Lucas stated that there are plenty of walking areas and a street car should be considered rather than a trail between Manchester and Brooklyn. Vaillencourt explained that the potential trail to Watkins Lake State Park is a township, county and state project that furthers healthy community goals.

**OLD BUSINESS-**

**WWCA/215 E. MAIN-** Way reviewed that the permit for construction and the occupancy permit have expired. He reviewed the letter that Wallace has written to Fahey addressing a revised site plan recently received by the Construction Authority and the Village. The amended site plan must be approved by the Planning Commission and Council.

**NEW BUSINESS-**

**WATS PRESENTATION-** Suzann Flowers and Emily Lake, transportation planners for Washtenaw Area Transportation Study, presented information on comments collected on-line and during forums in Western Washtenaw County focused on transit, non-motorized and road projects. They reported that the aging population of the area will need new and more ways to move without driving themselves which points to buses, trails and rails. When discussing changing transportation needs, Flowers indicated that urban transportation now focusses on getting people to Ann Arbor and then connecting them to the rest of the County, not moving within the City. The question is how to be mobile without a car.

**LEGAL ACTION- STATE LEAD AND COPPER RULES-** Wallace reviewed a letter received from the Village of Clinton pointing out the inconsistency of the General Law Village Act that states that the water service lines are the property and responsibility of the homeowner and the new State Lead and Copper rules that mandate replacement of lead service lines by the municipal water supplier. Clinton is asking if there is any interest in working together to have this question answered by the Courts. Council discussed the appeal nature of the question and the ability of the State to change the rules. Council indicated that they would support the initiative if enough others do. Wallace reported that lead and copper water lines will be a 20-year issue that could cost the Village \$300,000 to \$500,000.

**UNIFORM CONTRACT-** Jones presented the 3-yr contract for DPW and WWTP uniforms. He reported that they are happy with the product and the service. He also noted that there is no price increase the first year. A motion was made by Dresch, seconded by Woods, that the contract with Unifirst be renewed as presented. Roll call vote: ayes-all. Motion passed.

**FORD DAM INSPECTION-** Wallace presented the Inspection Report. He explained that the dam is in fair condition overall and in the next 4 years an engineering plan to more thoroughly inspect the dam and plan to repair one gateway will have to be developed. Wallace noted that that the Village will be able to keep up with the vegetation control.

**2019/2020 6-MTH BUDGET AMENDMENTS-** Schaible reviewed the proposed amendments. A motion was made by Dresch, seconded by Andrews, that the amendments be approved as presented. Roll call vote: ayes-all. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE-** Council acknowledged the following correspondence:

- Minutes from the January 15 Village Planning Commission meeting.
- An invitation to the DDA/Chamber 02/19/2020 meeting to discuss downtown events and activities.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE** – Council reviewed the payables list. A motion was made by Dresch, seconded by Chartrand, to approve for payment the list dated 02/03/2020 totaling \$23,868.28. Roll call vote: ayes-all. Motion carried.

**REPORTS**

**DDA-** Vaillencourt reiterated the invitation to the DDA meeting on February 19<sup>th</sup>. She also indicated the Washtenaw 2030 Destination Master Plan and its statistical reports on tourism

and the local economy. She noted that she is pleased to serve on the Washtenaw 2030 board and keep Manchester in the conversation.

DPW- Jones reviewed his report. He noted that water service line inspections have begun.

MANAGER- Wallace presented his report. He added that conversation with Washtenaw County Parks has indicated that the canoe/kayak livery at Sharon Mills is at least 2 years away.

President Vaillencourt adjourned the meeting at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie Schaible, Village Clerk